

Employers’ Responses to the Open-Ended Question:
“In trying to fill this position, what is the greatest difficulty you have faced, if any?”

DIFFICULTY	NUMBER OF RESPONSES	PERCENT OF RESPONSES
We have been unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that we are seeking.	42	19.81%
We have been unable to find qualified applicants and/or applicants with experience.	31	14.62%
Some aspect of the job is undesirable to applicants (such as shifts, weekends, nights, schedule changes, heavy lifting, etc.)	25	11.79%
There is a shortage of people in the occupation.	23	10.85%
No reported difficulty in filling vacancy.	23	10.85%
Finding people that want to work. Not enough applications submitted.	21	9.91%
The work ethic of people, once they are hired, is unacceptable. This included comments on social skills, appearance, attitude, maturity, and dependability.	11	5.19%
Turnover- keeping people once they have been hired is the biggest problem.	11	5.19%
Finding people to pass a drug test or background check (such as driving record or credit check).	9	4.25%
Some other difficulty mentioned.	9	4.25%
Qualified applicants will not work for the compensation package we offer.	7	3.30%
Total Responding to the Open-Ended Question	212	100.00%

These answers are not necessarily verbatim responses, but a compilation of similar responses.

What is the difference between industry group and occupational group?

An industry is a group of establishments, categorized according to the goods or services they provide. For purposes of this study, many of the industry sectors are grouped together to provide summary information. For instance, the industry sectors of Wholesale Trade, Retail Trade, Transportation and Warehousing, and Utilities are combined to form a summary industry group called Trade, Transportation & Utilities.

An occupational group is a group of workers, categorized according to the skills they have and what they do on the job. For example, Healthcare Practitioner and Technical Occupations is one occupational group that includes many different types of occupations such as Dentists, Optometrists, Therapists, Veterinarians, Diagnostic related Technologists and Technicians, and Medical Records and Health Information Technicians. These are just a few of the occupations you can find in this occupational group.

Each industry contains a variety of occupations, and many occupations may be found in every industry. Using Healthcare Services (part of the summary industry group of Education & Health Services) as an example, you may find the following occupations in a hospital: doctors, therapists, office managers, medical records clerks, housekeepers, nurses, food preparation workers, and maintenance workers.

Methodology

During the second quarter 2005, a Job Vacancy Survey was conducted based on a random sample of Louisiana establishments covered by Louisiana’s unemployment insurance tax laws. The sample was stratified by firm size, regional labor market area, and industry. The total sample size was 8,544 with an overall response rate of 56%. This survey was conducted prior to Hurricane Katrina. The Second Quarter 2005 Job Vacancy Survey reports for the state and eight regional labor market areas (RLMAs) can be found on the LDOL Web site: www.LAWORKS.net/qm_JVS.asp

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LAFAYETTE REGIONAL JOB VACANCY SURVEY
SECOND QUARTER 2005



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR * [WWW.LAWORKS.NET](http://www.LAWORKS.NET)

THE PURPOSE OF A JOB VACANCY SURVEY is to identify the number and types of jobs available in specific industries and regions of the state. The results of the survey assist educational units, employment and training providers, and local workforce councils in responding to industry needs. The Job Vacancy Survey data provides a unique snapshot of the conditions in a given region and/or occupational labor market.

There were 7,431 job vacancies in Regional Labor Market Area 4 (Lafayette Region) during the 2nd quarter of 2005 resulting in a vacancy rate of 3.07 percent. This means that for every 100 jobs, approximately 3 jobs were vacant at the time of the survey. The largest number of job vacancies (1,577) was found in the occupational group of Construction and Extraction Occupations while the largest vacancy rate was in Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations at 8.83 percent.

In the table below, Lafayette Regional Job Vacancies by Industry Group, Natural Resources and Mining had the larg-

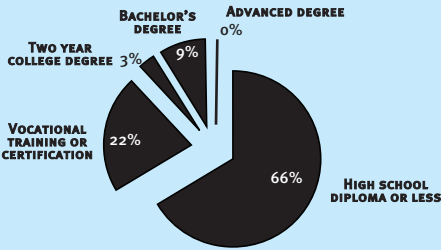
est number of job vacancies (1,412) and the highest vacancy rate of 6.6 percent.

Overall, Lafayette area employers were seeking experienced workers. Only 32 percent had jobs that required no experience. Approximately one-third of the jobs required training past high school and 66 percent required a high school diploma or less. The largest percentage of job vacancies (30 percent) paid \$5.15 to \$7.00 per hour. Only 6 percent of the job vacancies paid \$5.15 or less.

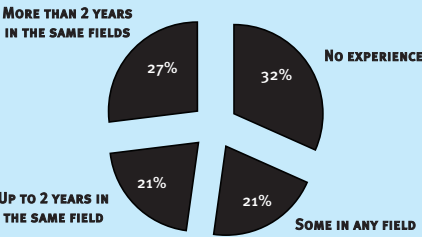
This survey included all ownership classifications, private ownership, federal, state, and local government. Of those responding with job vacancies, 84 percent were classified as private and 16 percent were classified as government statewide.

A list of difficulties that employers had in filling the positions can be found on the back page. The difficulty reported most often was being unable to find applicants with the specific experience, training, skills and/or certification that they were seeking.

LAFAYETTE REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF JOB VACANCIES



LAFAYETTE REGIONAL JOB EXPERIENCE OF JOB VACANCIES



LAFAYETTE REGIONAL JOB VACANCIES BY INDUSTRY GROUP

INDUSTRY GROUP	NUMBER OF VACANCIES	INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT*	VACANCY RATE	MEDIAN HOURLY WAGE
Natural Resources & Mining	1,412	21,380	6.6%	\$14.00
Education & Health Services	1,134	54,213	2.1%	\$11.55
Leisure & Hospitality	1,047	24,030	4.4%	\$5.30
Construction	1,008	16,057	6.3%	\$10.00
Trade, Transportation & Utilities	959	55,902	1.7%	\$7.38
Professional & Business Services	483	21,941	2.2%	\$7.25
Financial Activities	419	14,317	2.9%	\$10.75
Manufacturing	387	20,936	1.8%	\$7.72
Other Services	347	6,138	5.6%	NA
Public Administration	207	8,318	2.5%	\$8.17
Information	30	4,613	0.7%	\$19.23
Total, All Industry Groups ⁽¹⁾	7,431	248,054	3.0%	\$9.26

* 2nd Quarter 2005 - Industry Data

(1) Due to unclassified data, column may not add to total.



OCCUPATIONAL GROUP	NUMBER OF VACANCIES	EMPLOYMENT IN OCCUPATION	PERCENT REQUIRING AT LEAST SOME WORK EXPERIENCE	PERCENT REQUIRING MORE THAN A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA	MEDIAN HOURLY WAGE	MEDIAN NUMBER OF DAYS POSITION WAS VACANT	2ND QUARTER VACANCY RATE 2005 OVERALL*	2ND QUARTER VACANCY RATE 2005 PRIVATE SECTOR	2ND QUARTER VACANCY RATE 2004 PRIVATE SECTOR
Architecture and Engineering Occupations	90	4,240	98.2%	46.0%	\$11.91	9	2.13%	2.13%	1.67%
Arts, Design, Entertainment, Sports, & Media Occupations	0	1,490	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Building and Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance Occupations	223	6,600	6.0%	7.3%	\$6.17	7	3.39%	3.33%	1.17%
Business & Financial Operations Occupations	263	5,320	68.0%	68.0%	\$12.50	26	4.95%	4.95%	0.42%
Community and Social Services Occupations	5	2,420	30.9%	100.0%	\$5.71	37	0.22%	0.07%	1.51%
Computer and Mathematical Occupations	11	1,200	64.7%	100.0%	\$26.44	30	0.94%	0.94%	5.42%
Construction and Extraction Occupations	1,577	19,450	94.2%	10.4%	\$12.27	21	8.11%	8.09%	4.02%
Education, Training, and Library Occupations	28	12,640	9.4%	90.6%	NA	0	0.22%	NA	0.85%
Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Occupations	33	370	NA	NA	\$7.00	30	8.83%	8.83%	0.49%
Food Preparation & Serving-Related Occupations	556	19,130	58.9%	NA	\$5.65	11	2.91%	2.90%	4.20%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations	522	13,210	49.7%	97.1%	\$14.75	30	3.95%	3.55%	6.13%
Healthcare Support Occupations	272	6,880	13.6%	59.7%	\$6.80	14	3.95%	3.93%	4.34%
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair Occupations	921	16,190	93.3%	37.0%	\$9.00	21	5.69%	5.10%	3.97%
Legal Occupations	0	2,010	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations	37	1,230	100.0%	100.0%	\$15.50	15	3.00%	3.00%	4.43%
Management Occupations	110	11,510	100.0%	8.0%	\$15.69	30	0.96%	0.96%	0.39%
Non-Classifiable Occupations	19	NA	100.0%	100.0%	\$10.00	75	NA	NA	NA
Office and Administrative Support Occupations	918	40,730	68.0%	34.8%	\$7.73	21	2.25%	1.95%	2.55%
Personal Care and Service Occupations	118	4,950	95.5%	5.5%	\$6.00	21	2.39%	2.39%	9.87%
Production Occupations	421	19,700	62.8%	13.2%	\$8.75	18	2.13%	2.13%	2.61%
Protective Service Occupations	25	4,280	20.9%	15.7%	\$7.00	22	0.59%	0.33%	1.25%
Sales and Related Occupations	372	26,060	12.1%	NA	\$5.85	11	1.43%	1.43%	4.58%
Transportation & Material Moving Occupations	907	22,140	64.9%	56.0%	\$8.50	30	4.10%	4.07%	5.85%
Total	7,431	241,750	68.5%	37.27%	\$9.55	21	3.07%	2.94%	3.50%

*Overall includes the private sector as well as federal, state, and local government entities in Louisiana. NOTE: Due to rounding, column may not add to total.

TOP 10 JOB OPENINGS
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer (420 openings)
Cashiers (344 openings)
Mobile Heavy Equipment Mechanics, Except Engines (330 openings)
Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services (304 openings)
Derrick, Rotary Drill & Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas & Mining (296 openings)
Industrial Machinery Mechanics (271 openings)
Painter, Construction & Maintenance (268 openings)
Waiters and Waitresses (210 openings)
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners (203 openings)
Roustabouts, Oil & Gas (199 openings)

LAFAYETTE REGIONAL MEDIAN HOURLY WAGE

